

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/558,436

Examiner

CHUONG T. HO

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Art Unit

2476

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/27/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8,10,13,15,17,19,20,24,29,31,40,41,45 renumbered 1-20 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/17/09.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

/Ayaz R. Sheikh/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2476

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed 11/27/09 have been entered and made of record.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 10/07/09; 12/16/09 was filed after the mailing date of the Non Final Rejection on 08/26/09. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Michael I. Angert (Reg. No. 46,522) on December 10, 2009.

4. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been rewritten as follows:

A network system, comprising:

at least one new device newly connected to a master device through a network, for

transmitting a plugged-in request message containing an initial address through the network, receiving an address change request message containing a logical address, and changing the initial address to the logical address; and

at least one master device connected to the new device through the network, for receiving the plugged-in request message from the new device, setting the logical address for the new device, and transmitting the address change request message containing the logical address to the new device;

wherein when the master device receives a plurality of plugged-in request messages within a predetermined time, the master device decides whether the plugged-in request messages are inputted from the same kind of product devices before setting the logical address, transmits join request messages containing temporary logical address ranges to the same kind of new devices when there are the messages inputted from the same kind of product devices, or transmits the join request messages containing the temporary logical address ranges respectively to the new product devices when there is no message inputted from same kind of .product devices,

wherein the new device sets an arbitrary value as a temporary logical address within the temporary logical address range, changes ..the logical address to the temporary logical address. and transmits a join ACK response message containing the temporary logical address to the master device,

wherein the master device decides whether the temporary logical addresses contained in the join ACK response messages are identical, re-transmits join request messages containing new temporary logical address ranges to the new devices transmitting the

same temporary logical addresses, and transmits address change request messages containing new logical addresses to the other new devices.

wherein the initial address comprises at least a product code and a logical address of the new device, and the new device changes the logical address to the logical address set by the master device.

Canceled claim 9;

Claim 10 has been rewritten as follows:

The system of claim 1, wherein the master device decides whether the logical address contained in the initial address of the new device is an initial logical address before setting the logical address, and sets the logical address when the logical address of the new device is identical to the initial logical address.

Claim 17 has been rewritten as follows:

A configuration method of a network system including at least one master device and new device, comprising the steps of: transmitting, at the new device, a plugged-in request message containing an initial address of the new device to the master device; setting, at the master device, a logical address for the new device; transmitting, at the master device, an address change request message containing the

logical address to the new device; and

changing, at the new device, the initial address to the logical address,

wherein deciding, at the master device, whether the plugged-in request messages are inputted from the same kind of product devices before the step for setting the logical address, when the master device receives a plurality of plugged-in request messages within a predetermined time:

when the messages are inputted from the same kind of product devices, transmitting, at the master device, join request messages containing temporary logical address ranges to the new devices, or when the messages are inputted from different kinds of devices, transmitting, at the master device, the join request messages containing the temporary logical address ranges respectively to the same kind of product devices;

setting, at the new device, an arbitrary value as a temporary logical address within the temporary logical address range;

changing, at the new device, the logical address to the temporary logical address;

transmitting, at the new device, a join ACK response message containing the temporary logical address to the master device;

deciding, at the master device, whether the temporary logical addresses contained in the join ACK response messages are identical;

re-transmitting, at the master device, join request messages containing new temporary logical address ranges to the new devices transmitting the same temporary logical addresses; and

transmitting, at the master device, address change request messages containing new logical addresses to the other new devices.

wherein the initial address comprises at least a product code and a logical address of the new device and the new device changes the logical address to the logical address set by the master device.

Canceled claim 32;

Canceled claim 37;

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-8, 10, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20, 24, 29, 31, 40-41, 45 are allowed.
6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claim 1 is allowed. The prior art fails to disclose wherein when the master device receives a plurality of plugged-in request messages within a predetermined time, the master device decides whether the plugged-in request messages are inputted from the same kind of product devices before setting the logical address, transmits join request messages containing temporary logical address ranges to the same kind of new devices when there are the messages inputted from the same kind of product devices, or transmits the join request messages containing the temporary logical address ranges respectively to the new product devices when there is no message inputted from same kind of product devices,

wherein the new device sets an arbitrary value as a temporary logical address within the temporary logical address range, changes ..the logical address to the temporary logical address. and transmits a join ACK response message containing the temporary logical address to the master device,

wherein the master device decides whether the temporary logical addresses contained in the join ACK response messages are identical, re-transmits join request messages containing new temporary logical address ranges to the new devices transmitting the same temporary logical addresses, and transmits address change request messages containing new logical addresses to the other new devices.

wherein the initial address comprises at least a product code and a logical address of the new device, and the new device changes the logical address to the logical address set by the master device.

Claim 17 is allowed. The prior art fails to disclose when the messages are inputted from the same kind of product devices, transmitting, at the master device, join request messages containing temporary logical address ranges to the new devices, or when the messages are inputted from different kinds of devices, transmitting, at the master device, the join request messages containing the temporary logical address ranges respectively to the same kind of product devices;
setting, at the new device, an arbitrary value as a temporary logical address within the temporary logical address range;
changing, at the new device, the logical address to the temporary logical address;

transmitting, at the new device, a join ACK response message containing the temporary logical address to the master device;

deciding, at the master device, whether the temporary logical addresses contained in the join ACK response messages are identical;

re-transmitting, at the master device, join request messages containing new temporary logical address ranges to the new devices transmitting the same temporary logical addresses; and

transmitting, at the master device, address change request messages containing new logical addresses to the other new devices.

wherein the initial address comprises at least a product code and a logical address of the new device and the new device changes the logical address to the logical address set by the master device.

Claim 40 is allowed. The prior art fails to disclose wherein the initial address comprises a product code and an initial logical address of the new device, wherein the change step changes the initial logical address to a logical address set by the network system, wherein, further comprising the steps of: deciding whether a join request message containing the initial address and the temporary logical address range is inputted from the network system after transmitting the plugged-in request message; selecting an arbitrary value as a temporary logical address within the temporary logical address range according to the decision result; changing the initial logical address to the temporary logical address, and storing the changed address; and transmitting a join

ACK response message containing the temporary logical address to the network system.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHUONG T. HO whose telephone number is (571)272-3133. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sheikh Ayaz can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Chuong. T. Ho./
Examiner, Art Unit 2476
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